

Amendments to the Claims:

1-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A laying head for forming coils of continuous and substantially rectilinear rolled products comprising a support structure (2), a rotor (3) adapted to rotate about its own axis (X) under the action of motor means and held in rotation by the support structure (2) by means of bearings (4), characterised in that there are only two bearings and that at least one of the two bearings (4) incorporates vibrations damping means comprising ~~an~~ a passive oil film bearing (10) of the hydrodynamic type.

20. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 19, wherein each of the bearings (4) incorporates said vibrations damping means.

21. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 19, wherein, in proximity of a rolled product inlet side, at least one axial type hydrodynamic bearing is provided.

22. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 19 or 20, wherein said hydrodynamic bearing (10) is of the "tilting pad" type.

23. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 19 or 20, wherein said hydrodynamic bearing (10) is of the lobed type.

24. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 23, wherein in said hydrodynamic bearing (10) there are provided three lobes.

25. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 23, wherein in said hydrodynamic bearing (10) there are provided two lobes.

26. (Previously Presented) Laying head according to claim 25, wherein the arrangement of the lobes on the bearing is asymmetrical.

27. (New) Laying head according to claim 19, wherein the oil film bearing (24) is of the "squeeze film" type.

28. (New) A laying head for forming coils of continuous and substantially rectilinear rolled products comprising a support structure (2), a rotor (3) adapted to rotate about its own axis (X) under the action of motor means and held in rotation by the support structure (2) by means of bearings (4), characterised in that the bearings means incorporates vibrations damping means comprising a plurality of coils arranged around the rotor in

proximity of said bearing, the coils being adapted to produce a magnetic field under the action of control means, a sensor which provides feedback to the control means, said magnetic field creating a force substantially perpendicular to the axis (X) and of a predetermined intensity so as to eliminate the inertial forces generated by the masses of the rotor during rotation about the axis (X).

29. (New) Laying head of Claim 28 wherein the plurality of coils is arranged along a hemicycle of the rotor which produces a single resultant magnetic force substantially perpendicular to the axis (X).

30. (New) Laying head of Claim 28 wherein the plurality of coils is arranged along the entire circumference of the rotor which produce two resultant magnetic forces substantially perpendicular to the axis (X) and orthogonal to each other.

31. (New) A method of vibration damping of a laying head, comprising the following steps:

- a) determining by means of sensors of dynamic parameters relative to the vibrations produced by the rotor during a rotation thereof on the support structure;
- b) transmitting predetermined data, relative to the dynamic parameters, to electronic control means;
- c) defining activation modes of magnetic coils so that magnetic forces are produced, the resultant of which is such as to eliminate inertial forces producing vibration in the rotor.